



THE SYLVANIA STAR

SYLVANIA SCHOOLS FACULTY & STAFF NEWSLETTER

February 23, 2018

The tragedy in Parkland, Florida and yesterday's threat at Southview remind us that it is important to work together to Speak Up and Save Lives.

As our cell phones and devices began to buzz, beep, and ring with last Wednesday's news updates, the hearts of the nation again skipped a beat. We stopped to take a deep breath as we tried in vain to comprehend the latest school shooting. Then right here in our own district early Thursday morning we get word of a threat at one of our own schools. In the wake of a tragedy that has become all-too common, and the news that threats are happening here at home too, we educators refocus to reflect on our everyday interactions with students, scrutinize the look and feel of the spaces that we manage and inhabit every day, and struggle with the natural reactions of remorse and empathy. Underlying all of those feeling lies the hope that this will never really happen to us.

As we learn more about Parkland, Florida, we see a community and a school system very much like our own. News reports about the techniques and strategies in place in that district ring familiar as they represent areas of focus for our own Safety and Security Team. The similarity of Parkland to Sylvania and the scare that we got just yesterday, reminds us that as we balance the daily responsibilities of academics, competition, service, and collaboration, we must all keep school safety as the prime concern of everyday in every school. It is easy to get comfortable, leave doors open, and think that "this will never happen to us." We are all guilty of it.

But Sylvania is still a town bound by our commitment to each other and dedication to building and maintaining a community where we can all thrive. We can use that strength to protect our community by embracing the willingness to speak up about something we may observe in our schools that doesn't feel right. Every member of our family is an invaluable part of keeping us safe, and that safety will be achieved through a team effort. Just like late Wednesday and into Thursday morning when a report came in about the threat to Southview, if anyone, student, staff member, parent, community volunteer or administrator, sees something that isn't right, they must report it. The information needed to prevent tragedy and ensure safety surrounds us. We must practice the communication that shares it.

Speak Up and Save Lives!

-Adam



These pictures capture a few of the many powerful moments from this past Tuesday when Dan Greenberg, Chet Trail, teacher leaders, administrators, members of our Board of Education and student leaders hosted a Vigil to honor the victims of the tragedy in Parkland, Florida.

Licensed Staff:

If your license is expiring June 30, 2018, please renew this license as soon as possible. This license must be issued by June 30, 2018.

In order to obtain the retirement incentive benefit (Article XIV, J) an educator who will be eligible to retire during the year, or at the close of the school year, must submit a letter of resignation and intent to retire by February 28, 2018.

Classified Staff:

CPI Refresher Training:

February 27, 2018

4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Support Services Computer Lab

To register, please call Vicki Beard at ext. 8584.

Classes are limited to 20 people.

Reminder:

All required certifications for classified bids need to be on file in Human Resources before the job postings end. As a contracted employee, your bid will be disqualified if the requirements are not on file in the Human Resource Department.

Please call Barb (8519) or Jill (8509) if you have any questions.



February 16 In-Service a Huge Success

Thank you to all of the presenters and participants for making the recent PD day a huge success. Survey results showed that the vast majority of staff were appreciative of the content, structure, relevance and clarity of the sessions. A special thank you to David Budas, John Word, Amanda Sanderson, Megan Mitchell, and Darren Estelle, District 21C leaders, who managed all the the details to make the day a reality.

Check out some of the feedback received:

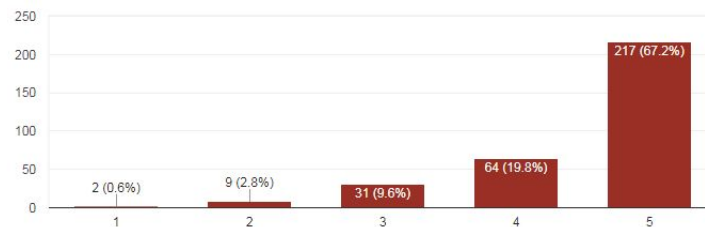
"I appreciate being given the time teachers put in to share with the staff different areas of learning. I also appreciate being given the time to collaborate."

"I liked getting together with teachers from the same department at the end of the day to discuss standards and activities that we use in class."

"I really liked that we were able to choose our sessions. All of the sessions I attended were very informative. Good PD day!"

Session 3 Relevance

323 responses



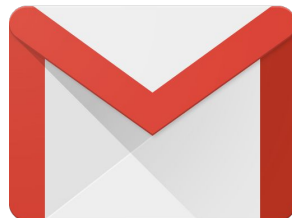
WE GOT WORD THAT YOU WENT Above & Beyond

Congrats to the NV cafeteria staff for great team work! In spite of the three snow days in January, their sales were up over 600 meals from the previous year.

Department of Technology

GMAIL is coming.

The technology office has started the planning process for a migration from Exchange to GMAIL for staff.



This will likely happen in during the summer months. To help facilitate this change and ease the migration of old mail, please clean up old messages.

You can do this by deleting messages and emptying the trash/deleted items folder in Outlook Web Access.

CROSTOWN CLASSIC
THE BATTLE OF SYLVANIA

2.23.2018 SOUTHVIEW HS

FRESHMEN 4:45 PM
JUNIOR VARSITY 6:00 PM
VARSITY 7:30 PM